cooked out in roasting beef (oleomargine you know) it is just as good for frying potatoes and even for shortening biscuit as lard or butter, but he must save it carefully free from gravy.
Sam leaves a week from tomorrow. I expect to have an interregnum as I think I can save something and the family is so small now. When Annie returns I shall have help again. If I should be away awhile Papa and Charlie can take their meals with Mrs. Keeler.

Knowing that every word about Annie is precious to you as well as to me, I enclose a letter Aunt Jane wrote me also one she wrote to Cousin Lue and which Lue sent to me.

Yours Mamma

Loves to Rhoda. Can she go to Santa C. with you?

Niles, Wednesday eve

Dear Millie

Papa went down to the City today, and I tried to make him believe that he could just as well go to Berkeley but I did not succeed. All I could accomplish was to get him to promise to stop in Oakland and leave a bundle for you at Aunt Jennie's. I sent the skirt of that black dress and that other pair of chemilettes.

Why dont you wear your grey suit to Santa Cruz? You will want something nice on the Steamer and at S. C. and I dont think that black and white plaid just the thing for best. Try

on the black, perhaps that will do for the beach, or the black and white will do for that. Now will I presume burn yourself black, but that is a small matter if you do not blister your face. I hope Auntie will be satisfied to stay till you go down, then when you return I will go, and so prolong Annie's stay as long as she chooses to stay.

About the vines you want. If I were you I would have some running roses, a La marque and a Cloth of Gold (you know that will run if allowed) or a Lady Banksia. The Physianthus is rather pretty but not at all to be compared to the roses and both that and the Mauraundia are comparatively short lived while the roses will still be flourishing when your Granddaughters go to board at the Club house. Strong argument; is it not? However I do not see that you can put out anything just at present, but I will remember your wants.

A word about the quantity of butter you use. It does always seem as if butter went very fast when bought by the roll, but it is just possible that your Chinese uses more in cooking than is neccessary. If he was required to carefully save the fat